

TAG QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Date: February 14, 2020
Report Number: 111
Report Period: October - December 2019
Site: **Butte Area/Silver Bow Creek**
Grant Recipient: Citizens Technical Environmental Committee (CTEC)
Technical Advisors: Kirk Engineering & Natural Resources

PROGRESS ACHIEVED

CTEC Technical Advisor - Steve Ackerlund and board members - Bill Macgregor, Joe Griffin, David Hutchins and John Ray attended health study working group meetings. The final report for the Second Residential Metals Abatement Program Medical Monitoring Study (Phase 2) is due out early 2020.

CTEC focused on health studies recently released that weren't part of the RMAP Medical Monitoring Study.

CTEC's technical advisor, Kirk Engineering, began sub-contracting with Water and Environmental Technologies (WET) to evaluate the compatibility of remedial plans with existing plans for restoring upper Silver Bow Creek. The deliverable for this sub-contract will be called "The Silver Bow Creek Feasibility Review". This contract was in the amount of \$48,380 will be completed early 2020. This review was requested by the Restore Our Creek Coalition and funded through the CTEC TAG.

Dana Barnicoat accepted the Community Involvement Coordinator position for the Montana EPA office. His official start date was October 28, 2019.

CTEC focused on the finalizing of the BPSOU Consent Decree due out early 2020.

Proposed BPSOU end-use cleanup material was displayed in the CTEC office. Graphics were provided by Josh Bryson and Greg Frisch – ARCO.

CTEC Board of Directors wrote a letter of support for the NIH INBRE proposal entitled "Improving Community Engagement to Inform Environmental Health Perceptions" submitted by Drs. Raja Nagisetty, David Hutchins, and Bill Macgregor, all of whom are faculty at Montana Tech, as well as CTEC board members. CTEC benefited tremendously

from the support it received through the research team's 2018-19 INBRE Pilot Study of the "risk-perception gap" in Butte.
Sponsored 3 meetings open to the public.

Provided technical assistance to 22 members of the public at CTEC office.

CTEC Board of Directors Meeting (all board meetings are open to the public)

Upper Silver Bow Creek review preliminary findings, health studies. December 17, 2019.

CTEC Public Presentations/ Events

Montana Resources Tailings Dam Discussion/Presentation: Mark Thompson - Montana Resources October 22, 2019.

Warm Springs Ponds Discussion/Presentation. Joe Griffin (CTEC), Allie Archer (EPA), Alex Leone (CFC), Nathan Cook (FWP), Gary Swant (Go Birds Montana) and Greg Frisch (ARCO). November 19, 2019.

Non-CTEC meetings/tours attended by CTEC staff and/or Board:

Medical monitoring working group –various.

Butte Natural Resource Damage Restoration Council. November 21, 2019.

Restore Our Creek meetings-weekly.

University of Mt - MT Tech Remediation/Restoration Seminar Series.

Butte-Silver Bow-Butte Superfund Advisory Redevelopment Trust Committee Meetings (SARTA).

Citizens for Labor and Environmental Justice Meetings (CLEJ).

Documents Reviewed and/or comments provided:

Draft Silver Bow Creek Feasibility Review.

Comments on the Executive Summary for Second Butte RMAP Medical Monitoring

Report (Phase 2). Kirk Engineering.

The Draft Second Residential Metals Abatement Program Medical Monitoring Study (Phase 2).

Health Study: Hailer & McDermott pre study on manganese, copper and zinc in infants.

Senior Engineer / Scientist Services - 11/04 - Emails with CTEC board, quick read of Anaconda biomonitoring results article in MT Standard

Other documents were reviewed at varying levels by CTEC board members or advisors when they were received.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED:

Focusing on the most effective ways to spend TAG funds. Butte area is a very large and complex site.

Increasing public involvement.

Updating Technical Advisor roles.

MATERIALS PRODUCED THIS PERIOD:

Comment on Draft Executive Summary for Second Butte RMAP Health Study (Phase 2). Kirk Engineering. October 31, 2019. (attached)

Comment on Clark Fork River fish number declines for November CTEC Meeting. Kirk Engineering, November 2019.

Summary of all reports received by the CTEC office from 2010 through December 31, 2019.

Summary of media on Butte Superfund remediation/restoration. 2015-2019.

ACTIVITIES ANTICIPATED IN NEXT QUARTER:

- . Provide technical support on the BPOSU Proposed Plan.
- . Provide technical support for the Butte Health Monitoring Study Phase 2.

- . Provide support on the NIH/INBRE Grant proposal – Improving Community Engagement to Inform Environmental Health Perceptions.
- . Continue to gain feedback from the community on Superfund questions concerns.
- . Focus on technical assistance.
- . Focus on outreach strategy.
- . Focus on new outreach material.
- . Focus on partnering with other local entities.
- . Provide support to EPA Community Involvement Coordinator for Butte Superfund sites.
- . Provide support to EPA Remedial Project Managers for Butte Area Superfund sites.
- . Focus on technical support and outreach for phase II of the Butte health study.
- . Work on strategic plan (a working document).
- . Work on Scope of Work plan (a working document).
- . Focusing on spending most funds on CTEC technical advisors.
- . Focus on storm water issues and outreach.
- . Focus on surface water issues and outreach.
- . Focus on ground water issues and outreach.
- . Continue working on identifying priorities.
- . CTEC representative for the Restore Our Creek Coalition.
- . CTEC representative on the waterfowl committee focusing on geese safety at the Butte Mine Flooding Operable Unit - Berkeley Pit.
- . CTEC representative for the Butte Natural Resource Damage Program.
- . CTEC representative for Citizens for Labor and Environmental Justice.
- . CTEC representative for the Pitwatch Program.
- . Provide public outreach for the Residential Soils Program.
- . Provide technical support to neighborhood groups.
- . Provide technical support to the Butte Natural Resource Damage Council.
- . Provide technical support to B-SB Superfund Advisory Board - Redevelopment Trust Fund.
- . Provide technical support to Clark Fork Watershed Education Program.
- . Provide technical support to Butte Citizens for Labor and Environmental Justice.
- . Provide technical support to Pit Watch.
- . Provide technical support to the Science Mine.
- . Provide technical support to Project Green.
- . Provide technical support to the Imagine Butte Resource Center.
- . Provide technical support to the MT Tech Remediation/Restoration Seminar Series.
- . Provide technical support to the MT Tech Biology/Chemistry research Departments.
- . Provide technical support to the Native Plant Program at Mt Tech.
- . Provide technical support to the Butte Radio KBMF 102.5.
- . Provide technical support to the Montana Public Radio.
- . Provide technical support to the Montana Standard newspaper.
- . Provide technical support to the local news stations.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED THIS PERIOD at the - CTEC OFFICE

October- December 2019

Unilateral Administrative Order Monthly Report of Activities – **Atlantic Richfield Co**

September 2019 (electronic)
October 2019 (electronic)
November 2019 (electronic)

Unilateral Administrative Order Monthly Report of Activities - **Butte-Silver Bow**

September 2019 (electronic)
October 2019 (electronic)
November 2019 (electronic)

Unilateral Administrative Order Monthly Report of Activities – **BNSF/UP**

September 2019 (electronic)
October 2019 (electronic)
November 2019 (electronic)

Butte Mine Flooding Operable Unit Monthly Reports: **Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology**

September 2019 (electronic)
October 2019 (electronic)
November 2019 (electronic)

Warm Springs Ponds Operable Unit. Warm Springs Pond Public Meeting Announcement– What's Up with the Warm Springs Ponds? Deer Lodge, October 22, 2019. Sponsored by EPA, State of Montana, Arco, Go Birds. Electronic copy October 7, 2019. Allie Archer - EPA.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Butte Reduction Works (BRW) Phase I Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and Request for Change BRW-2019-01. Josh Bryson – Arco. Electronic copy October 11, 2019. Ruthmeri Gleason – Pioneer.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Approval letter from EPA to ARCO with one comment: BPSOU ICIAP, dated October 16, 2019. Nikia Greene - EPA. Electronic copy October 17, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Comment letter from EPA to ARCO: BPSOU BRW Phase I QAPP RFC#2, dated September 19, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA. Electronic copy October 22, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA.

Comment - Public Participation and the Butte Consent Decree: Will the Process Promote Robust Public Involvement? John Ray. Electronic copy October 22, 2019.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Concurrence Comment on BPSOU POC Well Evaluation, dated September 23, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA. Electronic copy October 22, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA.

Announcement: Dana Barnicoat has accepted the Community Involvement Coordinator position for the Montana EPA office. His official start date was Monday October 28, 2019. Chris Wardell – EPA. Electronic copy October 23, 2019. Chris Wardell – EPA.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Comment Letter: BPSOU Draft Final Annual O&M Report - BTL System, dated March 29, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA. Electronic copy October 29, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Draft Final Timber Butte Repository Remedial Design (RD) Work Plan, which includes a Pre-Design Investigation (PDI) Work Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) dated October 31, 2019. ARCO. Electronic copy October 31, 2019. Ruthmeri Gleason – Pioneer.

Statement – EPA, DOJ, Outline Process for Finalizing Butte Priority Soils Consent Decree. Andrew Mutter – EPA. Electronic copy October 31, 2019.

Meeting Announcement: Butte Natural Resource Damage Program (BNRC)-Natural Resource Damage Program (NRDP)-Upper Clark Fork Advisory Council (UCFRB) joint meeting agenda –November 20, 2019. Helen Johnson Ditch Flow Enhancement Project Funding Recommendation; Harvey Creek Irrigation Efficiency and Fish Passage Project Funding Recommendation; and 2019 UCFRB Updates. Meranda Flugge – NRDP. Electronic copy November 13, 2019.

Meeting Announcement: Butte Natural Resource Damage Restoration Council will be having a meeting on November 21, 2019.

Addendum to---*The Berkeley Pit---an Ecological Time Bomb*. Including information on Butte's Superfund Cleanup and the Successful Silver Bow Creek Headwaters Coalition Silver Bow Creek Lawsuit Berkeley Pit---August 2019. Fritz Daily. Electronic copy. November 18, 2019.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. EPA to ARCO Comment Letter: Draft BPSOU 2018 Groundwater Monitoring DSR, dated April 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA. Electronic copy November 21, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site.

EPA to ARCO Comment Letter: Draft BPSOU 2018 DSR Butte Hill Diagnostic Data, dated April 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA. Electronic copy November 21, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Butte Reduction Works (BRW) Phase I Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Request for Change (RFC) BRW-2019-03. Josh Bryson – Arco. Electronic copy November 21, 2019. Ruthmeri Gleason – Pioneer.

Meeting Announcement: Natural Resource Damage Program (NRDP) Trustee Restoration Council meeting, December 10, 2019. Meeting topics include: the Helen Johnson Ditch Flow Enhancement and Harvey Creek Irrigation Efficiency and Fish Passage Projects Funding Recommendations; Flow Project Approval Process; 2019 Fiscal Report and Program Update; 2019 Aquatic and Terrestrial Resources Project Updates. Meranda Flugge – NRDP. Electronic copy December 2, 2019.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Revised Draft 2018 BRES Summary and Technical Recommendations Report. Julia Crain – BSB. Electronic copy December 3, 2019.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Draft Final Quarterly Operations and Maintenance Report Butte Treatment Lagoon System – Third Quarter 2019. Josh Bryson - Atlantic Richfield, Electronic copy December 4, 2019. Ruthmeri Gleason – Pioneer.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. EPA to ARCO Comment Letter: BPSOU Draft 2018 DSR Normal Flow and Wet Weather Data, dated April 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA. Electronic copy December 5, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. EPA to ARCO Comment Letter: BPSOU 2018 Surface Water Monitoring QAPP RFC-1, dated November 15, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA. Electronic copy December 10, 2019. Nikia Greene – EPA.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Butte Reduction Works (BRW) Phase I Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Request for Change (RFC) BRW-2019-03. Josh Bryson - Atlantic Richfield. Electronic copy December 11, 2019. Ruthmeri Gleason – Pioneer.

Environ Geochem Health. Population-based mortality data suggests remediation is modestly effective in two Montana Superfund counties. B. Davis . S. McDermott . M. McCarter . A. Ortaglia. Received: 17 September 2019/Accepted: 24 September 2019. Electronic copy December 19, 2019.

Environ Geochem Health. Letter to the Editor regarding Davis B, McDermott S, McCarter M, Ortaglia A. 2019. Population-based mortality data suggests remediation is modestly effective in two Montana Superfund counties. Environ. Geochem. Health J. Griffin . B. Macgregor . N. Greene . C. R. Partridge . J. Bryson . R. A. School. Received: 28 March 2018/Accepted: 15 August 2018 Springer Nature B.V. 2018. Electronic copy December 19, 2019.

Science of the Total Environment. Meconium identifies high levels of metals in newborns from a mining community in the U.S. Author links open overlay panel [HYPERLINK "https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969719355226" \l ""] [HYPERLINK "https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969719355226" \l ""] [HYPERLINK "https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969719355226" \l ""] August 2019.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU), Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site. Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU) Final Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for Timber Butte Repository. December 2019. Josh Bryson - Atlantic Richfield. Electronic copy December 19, 2019. Ruthmeri Gleason – Pioneer.

MEDIA

Montana Public Radio

Butte Reaches Superfund Milestone, Releasing Berkeley Pit Water Into Silver Bow Creek

By [HYPERLINK "https://www.mtpr.org/people/nora-saks"] • Oct 1, 2019

Butte Superfund Parties Reach Agreement On Final Cleanup Deal

By [HYPERLINK "https://www.mtpr.org/people/nora-saks"] • Oct 17, 2019



The Montana Standard

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/with-multi-millions-at-stake-these-four-have-been-leading/article_bd081331-9601-56c4-8a72-9b47a66b8aca.html"**]. Montana Youth. Sept 1, 2019. The four volunteers who have served the longest on a restoration council making million-dollar recommendations on behalf of the Mining City's ...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/epa-promises-funds-to-restore-our-creek-coalition/article_c49c51cd-bb3f-5d5f-a90e-a6840debfe2a.html"**] Montana Youth. Sept 4, 2019. The \$50,000 grant Restore Our Creek Coalition asked for nearly a year ago to see if a fully restored Silver Bow Creek from Texas Avenue to Geo...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/anaconda-has-a-new-plan-proposed-by-epa/article_a369ba6c-48be-5318-919d-29caf21860ea.html"**]. Montana Youth. Sept 5, 2019. If the Environmental Protection Agency's new proposal for Anaconda goes through, Atlantic Richfield Company could spend an additional \$20 million...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/opinion/editorial/standard-view-a-welcome-announcement-under-anybody-s-letterhead/article_6ca52561-1fb1-5c84-aab7-7f1fa403d2f8.html"**]. Sept 10, 2019. The announcement of a \$50,000 grant from EPA, routed through the Citizens Technical Environmental Committee, to Restore Our Creek was certainly...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/taking-a-bite-out-of-an-anaconda-yard/article_dabb75f1-2ee6-59d7-bbe9-8127bee7a7eb.html"**]. Montana Youth. Sept 15, 2019. An excavator took bites out of an Anaconda resident's boulevard area, next to the street, during an Atlantic Richfield Company cleanup over th...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/decades-late-say-critics-anaconda-working-on-lead-cleanup/article_8c4d9c6f-bac8-5d88-b448-4ba717b9ea89.html"**]. Montana Youth. Sept 15, 2019. In 1983 the Environmental Protection Agency came to Anaconda, making it one of the first Superfund sites in the nation. At 300 square miles of...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/breakthrough-sarta-grant-approval-paves-way-for-praxis-center-land/article_d23f53a4-9b73-5ac8-ada6-45d1d35d4545.html"**]. MIKE SMITH and DAVID McCUMBER. Sept 18, 2019. A potentially game-changing Uptown Butte enterprise is finally poised for a huge breakthrough — with some key help from the SARTA board.

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/berkeley-pit-discharge-hits-creek-monday-morning/article_8857c52f-8c15-530b-be53-ec5e65a7270a.html"**]. Montana Youth. Sept 30, 2019. The long-awaited Berkeley Pit discharge into Silver Bow Creek began Monday morning, which should keep the pit's water level at its current lin...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/the-nation-s-eyes-are-about-to-be-on-opportunity/article_31c9626f-a5ea-5dcb-aa8c-57c8d1b00f8a.html"**]. Montana Youth. Oct 3, 2019. In what appears to be a fight to the death, the Opportunity lawsuit over smelting pollution has reached the highest court in the land — and it...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/bullock-approves-money-to-finish-parrot-waste-removal/article_8797cba7-df28-589a-ad48-7733b9ed19f7.html"**]. Montana Youth. Oct 6, 2019. There is no more uncertainty — finishing the excavation of the old Parrot Smelter waste behind the Butte Civic Center is moving full steam ahead.

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/butte-hill-consent-decree-negotiations-finally-over-epa-says-pens/article_5c6dbbe4-922c-5466-a638-eb417daeee6b.html"**]. Montana Youth. Oct 10, 2019. The Environmental Protection Agency says the 13-year wait is about to end. The negotiators will get to “pens down,” by Friday as promised, Chr...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/opinion/columnists/guest-view-don-t-sign-consent-decree-until-creek-feasibility/article_ea8ea783-a73f-51aa-bb42-e7f80a998535.html"**]. Northey Tretheway. Oct 10, 2019. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, today the Consent Decree regarding the Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit should be announce...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/oops-epa-didn-t-make-consent-decree-deadline-again/article_ed334fa8-89b6-5f9b-b882-75af3f2e7a4a.html"**]. Montana Youth. Oct 12, 2019. The Environmental Protection Agency says the consent decree negotiators could not meet the Friday deadline after saying earlier this week that...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/negotiations-finalized-on-butte-hill-for-now-but-won-t/article_a40ded4c-11e8-55d8-bf36-5149c6b359d5.html"**]. Montana Youth. Oct 17, 2019. The pens are down, after 13 years, on the Butte Hill’s consent decree negotiations, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/resso-says-public-will-see-consent-decree-before-butte-silver/article_71558f22-8cd6-509b-b0f9-97c36a9be610.html"**]. David McCumber. Oct 18, 2019. An apparent disconnect flared Friday between Butte-Silver Bow and the federal agencies involved in Superfund negotiations over the public rele...

[[HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/opinion/columnists/guest-view-bsb-team-believes-consent-decree-is-an-excellent/article_1737f240-48d5-5d4d-9ff8-011bbf6df530.html"](https://mtstandard.com/opinion/columnists/guest-view-bsb-team-believes-consent-decree-is-an-excellent/article_1737f240-48d5-5d4d-9ff8-011bbf6df530.html)]. BSB Superfund Team. Oct 20, 2019. As recently reported by The Montana Standard, pens are down in the consent decree negotiations related to the cleanup and restoration of the B...

[[HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/opinion/editorial/to-butte-silver-bow-superfund-negotiators-thank-you-for-your/article_be7cf296-fee8-5201-a608-5bf5092ae232.html"](https://mtstandard.com/opinion/editorial/to-butte-silver-bow-superfund-negotiators-thank-you-for-your/article_be7cf296-fee8-5201-a608-5bf5092ae232.html)]. Oct 20, 2019. After 13 years of exhaustive, secret, on-again, off-again negotiations, a Butte Hill Superfund cleanup consent decree agreement has been reached.

[[HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/what-s-the-future-for-warm-springs-ponds/article_9378d63e-4199-50cd-ab54-0ed1c0fc9241.html"](https://mtstandard.com/news/local/what-s-the-future-for-warm-springs-ponds/article_9378d63e-4199-50cd-ab54-0ed1c0fc9241.html)] Montana Youth. Oct 22, 2019. Now that the Butte Hill consent decree has reached what appears to be its final stages, local authorities and activists are turning attention ...

[[HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/opinion/columnists/guest-view-an-open-letter-to-epa-deq-and-butte/article_d7d118e0-7dd5-5a09-b0b3-0a8a8521aa44.html"](https://mtstandard.com/opinion/columnists/guest-view-an-open-letter-to-epa-deq-and-butte/article_d7d118e0-7dd5-5a09-b0b3-0a8a8521aa44.html)]. John W. Ray. Oct 23, 2019. To: EPA, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, and Butte-Silver Bow.

[[HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/lead-and-arsenic-normal-in-anaconda-residents/article_08deed4d-870d-5f15-a131-a18c19567821.html"](https://mtstandard.com/news/local/lead-and-arsenic-normal-in-anaconda-residents/article_08deed4d-870d-5f15-a131-a18c19567821.html)]. Montana Youth. Oct 23, 2019. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry found that lead and arsenic levels in Anaconda residents are normal, according to a report...

[[HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/fish-population-in-upper-clark-fork-river-in-steep-decline/article_fc105823-4808-5704-9647-3295c7a45c22.html"](https://mtstandard.com/news/local/fish-population-in-upper-clark-fork-river-in-steep-decline/article_fc105823-4808-5704-9647-3295c7a45c22.html)]. Montana Youth. Oct 24, 2019. With only 82 brown trout found in an upper reach of the Clark Fork River this past spring, a state official says the reach is 32 times lower i...

[[HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/despite-waste-sediment-warm-springs-ponds-lauded-for-birding-sporting/article_4c6f1151-0b55-5ccc-af16-3133236230b3.html"](https://mtstandard.com/news/local/despite-waste-sediment-warm-springs-ponds-lauded-for-birding-sporting/article_4c6f1151-0b55-5ccc-af16-3133236230b3.html)]. Montana Youth. Oct 25, 2019. Warm Springs Ponds have an arsenic problem and contain 19 million cubic yards of mine and smelting waste, say officials.

[[HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/deq-after-decades-of-work-taking-heat-now-over-montana/article_59804d03-bc47-54f2-a36a-63d1e3971a66.html"](https://mtstandard.com/news/local/deq-after-decades-of-work-taking-heat-now-over-montana/article_59804d03-bc47-54f2-a36a-63d1e3971a66.html)]. Montana Youth. Oct 29, 2017. The year was 1996. The federal government issued a news release announcing a settlement of more than \$30 million over Butte's Montana Pole Plant...

[[HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/next-steps-on-butte-hill-consent-decree-outlined/article_50cb28fb-be17-5836-9432-ddc950a69cd9.html"](https://mtstandard.com/news/local/next-steps-on-butte-hill-consent-decree-outlined/article_50cb28fb-be17-5836-9432-ddc950a69cd9.html)].

Montana Youth. Oct 31, 2019. The Environmental Protection Agency released a statement Thursday outlining the next steps on the Superfund consent decree for the Butte Hill...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/opinion/columnists/guest-view-get-ready-for-community-empowerment/article_c454b16c-af7f-55cb-a0b2-9406744eb47b.html"**]. John McKee. Nov 12, 2019. Butte is about to enter an amazingly empowering moment in its recent history as the Consent Decree is about to be signed.

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/state-and-regional/regulators-stop-sale-of-montana-mine-waste-bag-o-slag/article_150eb93e-135a-54c5-aaf3-a8be72e73537.html"**]. Amy Beth Hanson. Associated Press. Nov 18, 2019. Environmental regulators have put a halt to a Montana business association's sale of sandwich bags of mining waste advertised as a "Bag O'Slag."

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/deq-says-up-to-acres-of-montana-pole-plant-site/article_58ac7ee7-33b5-5267-895a-09fd5de9b.html"**]. Montana Youth. Nov 25, 2017. The state says there could be as much as 25 acres that will be available for industry to move into and set up shop at the former Montana Pole ...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/health-study-shows-startling-levels-of-metals-in-butte-babies/article_d7c10bb3-68b6-588f-9028-a828ab17d034.html"**]. David McCumber. Nov 26, 2019.

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/the-public-s-health-co-author-to-discuss-metals-concentrations/article_36e96e60-30b9-5c78-94a2-c476180792bb.html"**]. Karen Sullivan. Dec 3, 2019. The co-author of a recently published health study looking at metals concentrations in Butte-Silver Bow newborns will discuss her findings at

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/consent-decree-public-period-won-t-happen-during-holidays/article_101fbd2e-dcaa-5c6a-8de0-6a1c00441391.html"**]. David McCumber. Dec 4, 2019. The proposed consent decree for the Butte Hill, currently being vetted by Department of Justice and EPA officials, is expected to be ready to ...

[**HYPERLINK "https://mtstandard.com/news/local/county-epa-state-pledge-further-look-at-meconium-study/article_fa0ab36a-3e4f-5dee-8d0e-bf3bb2bcb8bc.html"**]. David McCumber. Dec 4, 2019. An EPA toxicologist and Montana's lead epidemiologist both pledged Wednesday to help Butte-Silver Bow County validate and further explore the ...

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